Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-13 /071 W

----- 005167

R 151020Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4919

INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

CONFIDENTIAL ABU DHABI 2476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PINT, PFOR, TC, SA

SUBJECT: PRINCE NAYIF, NOT PRINCE FAHD, TO VISIT UAE

REF: ABU DHABI 2440

1. SAUDI AMBASSADOR ABDULLA AL-KHAYAL TOLD ME IN COURSE BRIEF CONVERSATION EVENING SEPT 14 THAT CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORTS HERE (SEE REFTEL) PRINCE FAHD WAS NOT PLANNING VISIT UAE IN NEAR FUTURE. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT SAG MINISTER OF INTERIOR PRINCE NAYIF WOULD BE COMING (NO DATE GIVEN BUT IMPLICATION WAS SOON). MOREOVER, AMBASSADMHG AL-KHAYAL INDICATED THAT NAYIF WOULD VERY DEFINITELY BE INVOLVING HIMSELF IN QUESTION OF SHAIKH ZAYED CONTINUING AS UAE PRESIDENT. AMBASSADOR WENT ON TO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT IN HIS RECENT CALLS ON THREE KEY RULERS (RASHED, SULTAN AND SAQR) HE HAD FOUND ALL IN FAVOR OF ZAYED CONTINUING. AMBASSADOR DID NOT, HOWEVER, ADDRESS QUESTION AS TO WHAT PRICE OTHERS WOULD HAVE TO PAY TO GET ZAYED TO STAY AND WHETHER THEY PREPARED TO DO SO.

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2. COMMENT: I HOPE TO FOLLOW UP WITH SAUDI AMBASSADOR MORE

THAN WAS POSSIBLE AT SOCIAL FUNCTION. HIS RECENT CALLS, INCLUDING ONE ON ZAYED IMMEDIATELY AFTER LATTER'S RETURN, HAVE RECEIVED PROMINENT PLAY IN LOCAL PRESS. THESE COUPLED H REPORTS OF FAHD VISIT HAVE LED TO OBVIOUS SPECULATION AS TO NATURE SAUDI ROLE IN CURRENT INTERNAL TUG OF WAR HERE. QUESTION IS HOW MUCH FOUNDATION IS THERE FOR THIS SPECULATION AND WHAT DOES POSSIBLE NAYIF FOR FAHD SWITCH MEAN, IF ANYTHING?

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESIDENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: PRINCE NAYIF, NOT PRINCE FAHD, TO VISIT UAE

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, TC, SA, (NUHAYAN, ZAYID IBN SULTAN AL), (NAYIF, PRINCE)
To: STATE

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